

9th BLUE & WHITE

The official magazine of the
South Melbourne Hellas Soccer Club Ltd.



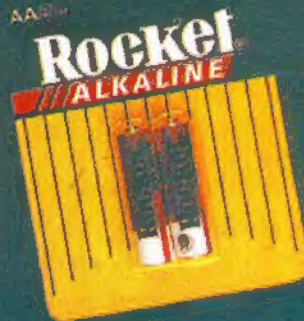
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ROUND 18 - 1995/96 Ericsson Cup
SOUTH MELBOURNE v UTS OLYMPIC
Saturday 4th February 1996
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**South Melbourne
Hellas Soccer Club**

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EDITORIAL

Just a suggestion



IT ALMOST seems as if we are starting another season; we've had the Olympic qualifying tournament and the Johnnie Walker Cup but now it's down to the bread and butter of the Ericsson Cup - once again.

Elsewhere in this magazine we highlight that magnificent Johnnie Walker Cup success, South Melbourne's second trophy of the 95/96 season.

The 'break' for the Cup has, in effect, given the majority of the League time off, or at least a break from NSL playing - and the game still rolls on despite that fact.

So why can't we have a break over the festive period? At most clubs the attendances drop after Christmas so why can't we consider having even a two weekend break from the league?

I know that the marketing wizards will be up in arms with that suggestion but maybe the fans and players won't.

It's just a suggestion, but one which has been knocked on the head in the past because it has been argued that you can't break the league competition.

Well, we just have.

Australians seem to traditionally like to hit the beach over that New Year period so it just seems a bit of commonsense to break the league at the same time, a time when the fans' interest takes a bit of a nosedive.

But I don't advocate scrapping the Christmas time fixtures; far

from it, as I believe that is a time when our summer sport can really capture the headlines.

There is nothing better than to share an end of the year drink or two after a game at the club and celebrate the festive season with friends.

I also can't understand why the Johnnie Walker Cup can't be extended to include State League teams.

Why can't the Cup commence in its early stages about June and then go through the knockout stages until the NSL clubs are added at the beginning of September.

Then another five weeks of meaningful knockout football would lead to a climax before the main League season gets underway.

I wouldn't imagine that there is any State League club out there, whether it is Super League or Division Five, which would grumble about extending its season into October if it meant playing against the big guys.

I've spoke to literally hundreds of fans, coaches and players about this and to date no one has disagreed.

Anyway, just a couple of suggestions that maybe those in the corridors of power might wish to take up.

In the meantime we welcome UTS Olympic to Bob Jane Stadium tonight and hope that you enjoy the big game.



Treble In Sight

"This is for those marvellous fans," gushed coach Frank Arok after the Johnnie Walker Cup final victory over Newcastle Breakers.

"They have stuck with us all the way and we have done it for them.

"I've always said that the team would be right in the end - and it has come true."

And that superb run throughout January has underlined another Arok prophecy - that this was the start of a new era, an era when other clubs would fear coming to Bob Jane Stadium.

In the first half against the Breakers South Melbourne turned on the style, a style which gave lie to the fact that the Blues struggled in the opening games of the season.

But finally Arok's new system of play has shown signs of paying off and has produced a tangible reward.

"This is just the start," said club general manager Peter Filopoulos.

"Don't forget that we have already won the Dockerty Cup so this makes it two out of two. Now we are going for the big treble - the next one is the Ericsson Cup."

Four months ago that might have seemed laughable, even two months ago it was questionable - as it is today if you look at the club's unenviable league position.

But consider another fact - that South Melbourne has only lost ONE game at Bob Jane Stadium, and that was against West Adelaide in November when the new ground was opened.

In the meantime the run of nine games at home without defeat has seen the Blues climb off the bottom rung on the ladder as well as clinch the first NSL trophy of the season.

Who could really doubt the club's legitimate claim to a Top Six chance now?

But in the way is tonight's big match against the stylish league leaders, UTS Olympic.

However, there are no easy games in this competition and what better test for Arok's new machine than a game against the best.

At the back of the side Tansell Baser has settled into the sweeper's role like a veteran.

That has allowed the Arok plan to function; a plan which relies heavily on its ability to break out of defence and overlap down the flanks.

The success that it has enjoyed can be easily gauged by New Zealander Vaughan Coveny's free scoring.

Coveny is showing the sort of form which made Frank Arok bring him to the club and which enabled him to capture a regular place in the Kiwi line-up.

The Blues have an enormous task in front of them to claw their way into the Top Six but with the difference that now the experts are saying 'when', rather than 'if'.

1995/96 Johnnie Walker Cup Final (27 January 1996)

South Melbourne 3 (Coveny 22, 74, Panopoulos pen 35)

Newcastle Breakers 1 (Hickman 49)

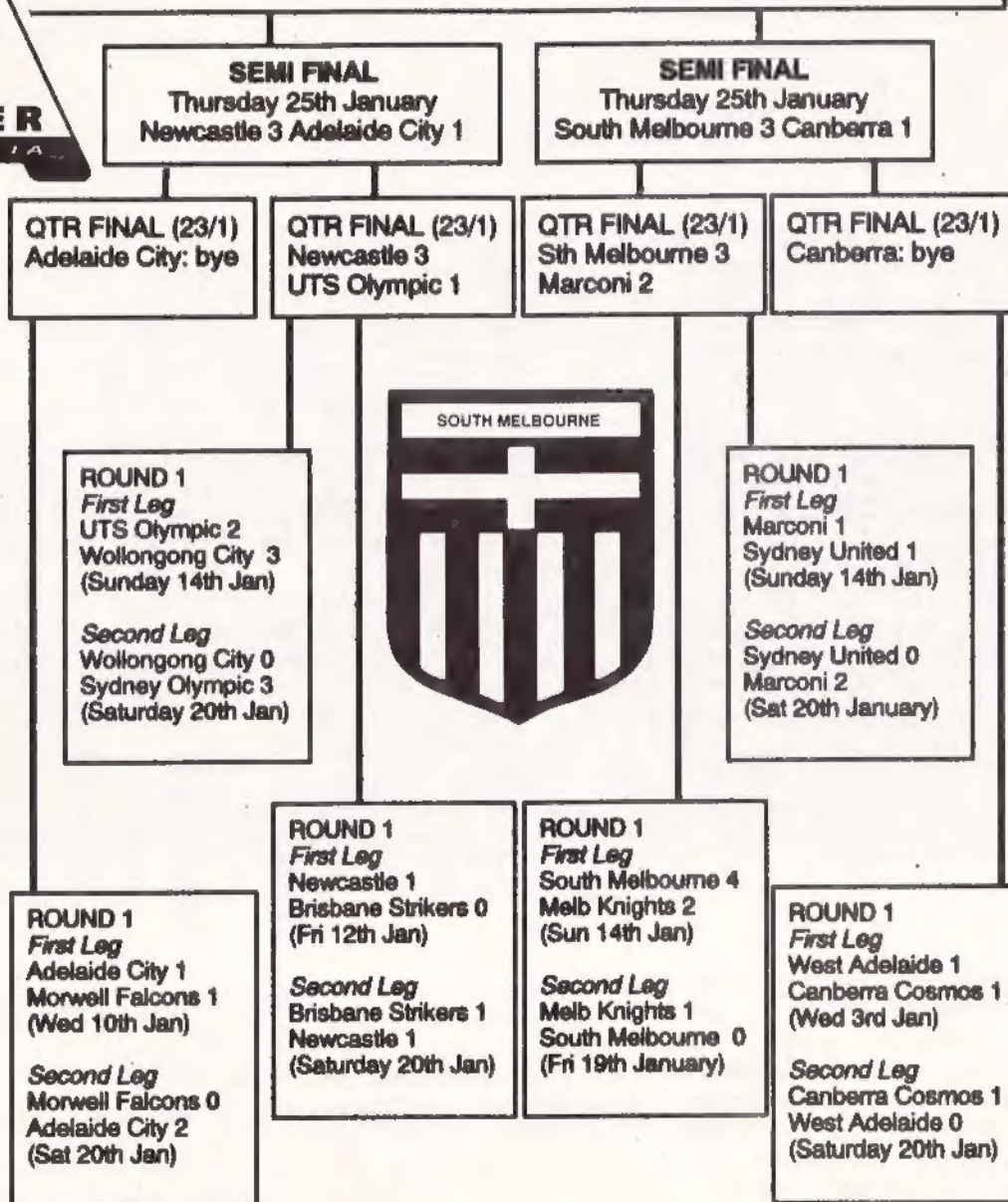
Venue: Bob Jane Stadium Attendance: 4,684 Referee: S Micallef

South Melbourne: Petkovic, Blatsis (Anthopoulos 69), Panopoulos, Kuzmanovic, Coveny, Damianos (Nikolic 77), Trimboli, Petersen, Knezevic, Baser, Alsopp (Lewis 69). COACH: Frank Arok

Newcastle: Carter, Hickman, Halpin (Zane 80), Moore, James, Bennett, Thomas, Pryce, Sprod, Stewart, Ritchie (Maier 50). COACH: John Kosmina

Yellow Cards: NB - Carter 11, Stewart 18, Moore 24, Thomas 40, Bennett 90

Red Cards: NB - Sprod 90, Moore 90



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THE GOOD NEWS FOR South Melbourne fans is that popular defender Kevin Muscat is back with the club – and that there could be several other big names still to follow.

Recently the rumour mill has been in free flow with names like Kevin Muscat, David Seal, Nick Orlie, Lorenz Kindtner and Paul Agostino mentioned.

"Kevin is coming back," confirmed a club spokesman.

"We have talked with the player and are delighted that he has decided to come back to Bob Jane this season."

Muscat fell victim to politics in England when his transfer to Sheffield United fell through because the Blades sacked their manager.

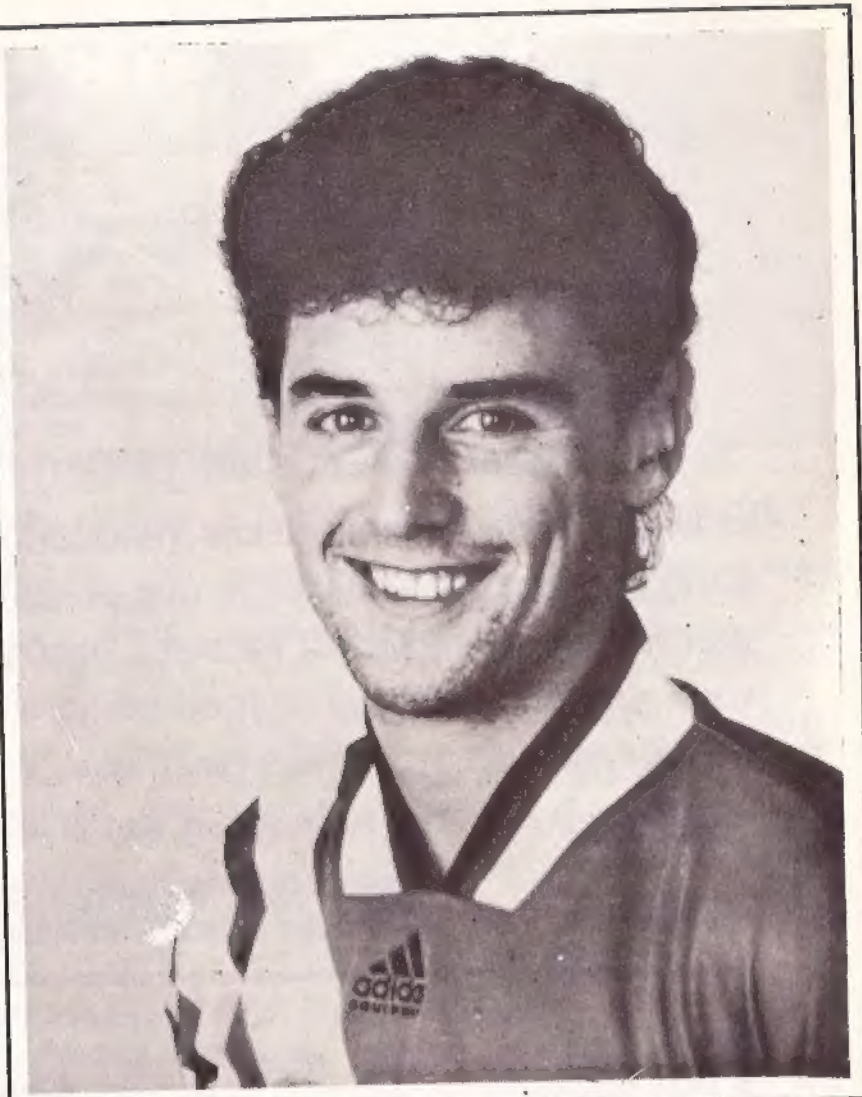
But instead of lashing out Muscat took it on the chin.

"People have said that maybe if South Melbourne hadn't taken so long with the transfer then it would have gone through in time, but how could you blame the club?"

"South Melbourne were only acting in a business like manner and making sure that they got the best deal.

"What happened was unfortunate, but that is the way it goes.

"I still want to play in England and



Muscat heads shopping list

have made good use of my time there, but now I need to be playing regularly so that I can be part of the Olympics."

The return of the brilliant defender is a big boost for the Blues as is the signing of Nick Orlie, rated by Rale Rasic as "the finest left sided defender in this country".

"I can confirm also that Orlie has signed," announced a club official, "but talks of signing Lorenz Kindtner are rubbish.

"We have had talks with David Seal and Paul Agostino at Bristol City where they are both in the reserves.

"But they are both more

interested, at this stage, in fighting for their first team places.

"Paul Agostino was very interested in coming back and I feel that he is a bit homesick.

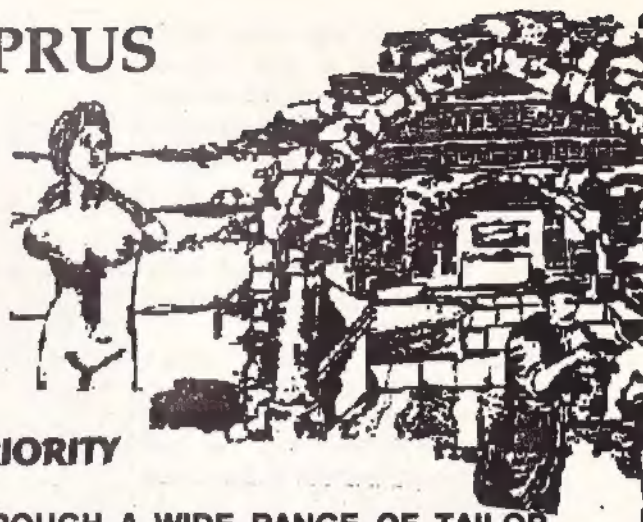
"We are still talking to him and it may well be that he does sign with South Melbourne at some stage in the future."



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BANK OF CYPRUS : A HUNDRED YEARS AHEAD

Studs Up

FANZINES HAVE have become a big thing in England where they have, in many cases, surpassed the popularity of official club publications.

It hasn't happened in Australia although there is at least one publication out there, *Studs Up*, which is trying to establish a solid footing.

Maybe the reason why it isn't more popular is because it isn't really a fanzine in the true sense of the word but rather a publication trying to appeal to supporters of ALL clubs.

Contributor Ewen Anderson has written a review of *In Blue & White* in which he makes a few criticisms (none of them

valid and all displaying his lack of knowledge concerning the game's infrastructure in Australia).

He also makes a couple of complimentary comments like "A big bumper read", "a good mix of articles and photos" and concludes that it would "be a forerunner for that elusive Studs UP Golden Programme Award." (WOW, what is that - a free trip to the World Cup final ...)

Other club magazines get some very harsh and unfair treatment: West Adelaide "it flatters to deceive"; Canberra Cosmos "not much meat"; Nottingham Forest Aussie Tour "put together



Vaughan Coveny: salutes the SMH supporters

by people who have little idea of what a programme should do."

At no time does Mr Anderson do what all good reviewers do; compare value for money. Accordingly, the fact that SMH supply *In Blue & White* to supporters at no cost doesn't rate a mention.

Ewen Anderson also takes time out to attack

the club for our registered business name.

"Why the perseverance with Hellas in the name?" he asks.

Maybe, Ewen, because that IS the club's registered company name.

Why should it be changed? Would YOU change your name to Elizabeth if we don't like it?

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My Little Genius

IT WAS ONLY last year that Aussie coach Eddie Thomson was saying that Paul Trimboli was too slow for international football.

But the little midfielder finally got his chance again when he was recalled against the Kiwis - and he played brilliantly.

This season he has also been outstanding in the blue and white of South Melbourne, shooting him to early favouritism in the race for the NSL Player of the Year trophy.

Socceroo skipper Paul Wade is one of 'Trimmers' great admirers and takes up the story: "When Frank Arok was Socceroo coach he used to call Paul, 'My Little Genius'.

"And he is certainly that - and more. Some of the things that he does with the ball only Paul Trimboli can do.

"This season he has been inspirational and I know that the club's rally has been largely down to Trimmers.

"Not many people know that he is a great leader as well, he is well spoken and commands respect from all of the other players.

"When Trimboli asked the other players to dig down for that extra twenty percent they all responded."

In the Cup Final Paul Trimboli also produced touches of genius, particularly with his angled knock back which set up the opening goal.

That sort of play has been his trademark all season; a little jink, a swerving run or an acutely angled pass which sets up goals out of the blue (pardon the pun).

But for the last few seasons there



have been the usual 'where is Paul Trimboli' comments, as if his exclusion from the Socceroos meant that he was all washed up.

In truth he has been in the same place all the time - playing for South Melbourne.

Under a succession of different coaches, at firstly Middle Park and

now Bob Jane Stadium, Trimboli has excelled.

His close ball skills and incisive passing are a feature of a game which has made him this season's stand out player with the Blues once again being the main beneficiary of his talents.



TOOHEYS BLUE



ERICSSON CUP THE TOP MARKSMEN

13	Damien MORI (Adelaide City)
11	Kris TRAJANOVSKI (UTS Olympic)
9	Frank FARINA (Brisbane Strikers)
9	Paul WADE (Canberra Cosmos)
8	Andy HARPER (Marconi-Fairfield)
7	Ivan KELIC (South Melbourne)
6	Pablo CARDOZO (West Adelaide)
6	Warren SPINK (Morwell Falcons)
6	Kimon TALIADOROS (UTS Olympic)
6	Paul TRIMBOLI (South Melbourne)
6	Jim TSEKINIS (West Adelaide)
5	Francis AWARITEFE (Marconi-Fairfield)
5	Rod BROWN (Brisbane Strikers)
5	Ante MILICIC (Sydney United)
5	Tony PERINICH (Wollongong Wolves)
5	Mike SMITH (Marconi-Fairfield)
5	Norman TOME (UTS Olympic)
4	Lachlan ARMSTRONG (Canberra Cosmos)
4	Jason BENNETT (Newcastle Breakers)
4	Brian BOTHWELL (Morwell Falcons)
4	Bradley HASSELL (Adelaide City)
4	Brad MALONEY (Marconi-Fairfield)
4	Andrew MARTIN (Melbourne Knights)
4	Tony POPOVIC (Sydney United)
4	Joe SPITERI (Melbourne Knights)
4	David ZDRILIC (Sydney United)
3	Matthew BINGLEY (Marconi-Fairfield)
3	Sean CRANNEY (Brisbane Strikers)
3	Bill DAMIANOS (South Melbourne)
3	Nathan DAY (West Adelaide)
3	Robbie HOOKER (West Adelaide)
3	Manis LAMOND (Sydney United)
3	Robbie MARKOVAC (Sydney United)
3	Joe MULLEN (Adelaide City)
3	Michael MUSITANO (Canberra Cosmos)
3	Marko PERINOVIC (Canberra Cosmos)

the next Ericsson Cup Matches at Bob Jane Stadium

v
Marconi-Fairfield
Sunday, 11 February 1996
KICK OFF 7.00pm

v
Brisbane Strikers
Sunday, 25 February 1996
KICK OFF 7.00pm

1995/96 SOUTH MELBOURNE STATS

Best Crowd:
13,956 v West Adelaide (Home) - Round 9

Best Home Crowd:
13,956 v West Adelaide (Home) - Round 9

Total Home Crowds:
56,571 (8 games)

Average Home Crowd:
7,071

95/96 Ericsson Cup Top Crowd:
13,956 South Melbourne v West Adelaide - Round 9

*All figures are based on official ASF records and not those reported in the press.

ERICSSON CUP PLAYER APPEARANCES

04	Alsopp
15	Anastasiadis
13	Anthopoulos
08	Baser
06	Blatsis
15	Coveny
01	Curcija
15	Damianos
07	Davidson
05	Duric
16	Kelic
15	Kuzmanovic
15	Lewis
02	Lilikakis
07	Mangos
12	Nikolic
14	Panopoulos
03	Papadopoulos
16	Petersen
12	Sherifovski
16	Trimboli
11	Vakanis

GOAL SCORERS:

07	Ivan KELIC
06	Paul TRIMBOLI
04	Steve PANOPOULOS
02	Vaughan COVENY
02	Bill DAMIANOS
01	Daniel ALSOPP
01	Con BLATSIS
01	Craig LEWIS
01	Steve MANGOS
01	Agim SHERIFOVSKI



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SOUTH MELBOURNE

THE BLUES SQUAD

- 1 Dean Anastasiadis
- 2 Con Blatsis
- 3 Steve Mangos
- 4 Alek Kuzmanovic
- 5 Mike Valkanis
- 6 Con Anthopoulos
- 7 Steve Panopoulos
- 8 Vaughan Coveney
- 9 Paul Trimboli (C)
- 10 Ivan Kelic
- 11 Agim Sherifovski
- 12 Bill Damianos
- 13 Craig Lewis
- 14 Michael Petersen
- 15 John Paul Knezevic
- 16 Tansell Baser
- 17 Sasa Nikolic
- 18 Michael Curcija
- 19 Daniel Alsopp
- 20
- 21 Aleksander Duric
- 22 Alan Davidson
- 23 Michael Petkovic
- 24
- 25
- 26 George Tsianakas
- 27
- 28
- 29

BLUE SHIRTS, BLUE SHORTS, WHITE SOCKS

LIKELY LINE-UP

PETKOVIC

BASER

BLATSI

DAMIANOS

KUZMANOVIC

KNEZEVIC

PETERSEN

COVENY

PANOPOULOS

TRIMBOLI

ALSOPP

COACH: Frank Arok

LAST SIX LEAGUE HOME GAMES

- v Wollongong City (29.12.95) WON 6-0
- v Adelaide City (23.12.95) WON 2-0
- v Morwell Falcons (16.12.95) DREW 2-2
- v Melbourne Knights (10.12.95) WON 1-0
- v Newcastle Breakers (6.12.95) WON 3-1
- v West Adelaide (26.11.95) LOST 2-3

LAST SEASON:

South Melbourne 1 Adelaide City 1
Sydney Olympic held the upper hand, winning the away match 1-0.

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LIKELY LINE-UP

GIBSON

BLAGOJEVIC

BAILLIE

BARRETT

CIANTAR

ARDONE

BOVE

MEREDITH

SLATER

TRAJANOVSKI

TALIADOROS

COACH: Dave Ratcliffe

OLYMPIC SQUAD

Mike Gibson	1
David Barrett (c)	2
Adam Ciantar	3
Nick Orlie	4
George Sorras	5
Peter Tsekenis	6
George Valas	7
Kimon Taliadoros	8
Norman Tome	9
Chris Slater	10
Kris Trajanovski	11
Walter Ardone	12
Raphael Bove	13
Elias Augerinos	14
Nick Meredith	15
Robbie Ironside	16
Milan Blagojevic	17
Ivo de Jesus	18
Con Paradisis	19
George Bouhoutsos	20
Scott Baillie	21
	22
	23
	24
	25
	26
	27
	28
	29

LAST SIX LEAGUE AWAY GAMES

v Wollongong City (5.1.96)	WON 4-0
v Adelaide City (26.12.95)	DREW 0-0
v Melbourne Knights (17.12.95)	WON 1-0
v West Adelaide (2.12.95)	LOST 1-3
v Canberra Cosmos (28.10.95)	WON 3-2
v Morwell Falcons (18.10.95)	LOST 2-4

CURRENT FORM: Olympic are the form team of the competition and this game marks a real hurdle for the Blues. The key may well be the ability of Tansell Baser to mop up the three man strike force that Olympic will hurl at South.
Prediction: 1-1

EASIER



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BIG MATCH RESULTS ERICSSON CUP

ROUND 17

Friday 5 January

Wollongong City 0

UTS Olympic 4 (Tome 6, Trajanovski 69, 78, 89)

Venue: Brandon Park

Att: 5,069 Referee: M Shields

Saturday 6th January

Canberra Cosmos 1 (Wade 84th)

Marconi-Fairfield 3 (Maloney 13th, Harper 69th, Awaritefe 73rd)

Venue: Bruce Stadium

Att: 5,290 Referee: S Micallef

Sydney United 4 (Milicic 46th, 85th, 87th, Lamond 81st)

South Melbourne 1 (Trimboli 63rd)

Venue: Croatian Sports Centre

Att: 2,825 Referee: E Lennie

Morwell Falcons 0

Brisbane Strikers 1 (R Brown 60th)

Venue: Falcons Stadium

Att: 2,042 Referee: B Hugo

Sunday 7th January

Adelaide City 0

West Adelaide 2 (Hooker pen 44th, pen 84th)

Venue: Hindmarsh Stadium

Att: 9,601 Referee: G Connolly

Melbourne Knights 2 (Lapsansky 5, Marth 74 pen)

Newcastle Breakers 0

Venue: Croatian Sports Centre

Att: 4,187 Referee: C Naumcevski

National Youth League

Round 14

Altona Magic 1 Springvale City 1

VIS 1 Green Gully 2

Melbourne Knights 4 Morwell Falcons 1

Melbourne Zebras 2 North Geelong 1

Bulleen 1 Port Melbourne 0

Heidelberg United 2 South Melbourne 2

Round 15

Green Gully 1 Altona Magic 0

North Geelong 1 Melbourne Knights 6

Ericsson Cup

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
UTS Olympic	17	10	5	2	33	17	35
Marconi-Fairfield	17	10	4	3	30	17	34
Sydney United	17	8	6	3	24	15	30
Brisbane Strikers	17	9	2	6	25	19	29
Melbourne Knights	17	8	4	5	18	12	28
West Adelaide	17	7	4	6	23	21	25
Adelaide City	17	6	4	7	26	20	22
Morwell Falcons	17	6	3	8	21	29	21
Canberra Cosmos	17	5	5	7	26	27	20
South Melbourne	17	6	2	9	28	30	20
Newcastle Breakers	17	2	4	11	14	34	10
Wollongong City	17	3	1	13	12	37	10

National Youth League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Green Gully	15	11	0	4	34	27	33
Melbourne Knights	15	9	3	3	45	29	30
South Melbourne	14	8	4	2	40	15	28
VIS	14	8	3	3	42	17	27
Bulleen Lions	14	8	3	3	29	17	27
Heidelberg United	14	6	4	4	31	26	23
Springvale City	14	5	5	4	18	22	20
Melbourne Zebras	14	4	5	5	23	24	17
Morwell Falcons	14	5	2	7	21	39	17
Altona Magic	15	4	1	10	14	32	13
North Geelong	15	1	2	12	9	52	5
Port Melbourne	14	1	0	13	13	34	3

ERICSSON CUP NOTICE

Entry inside the perimeter fence of the playing area is prohibited at all times and offenders will be prosecuted. All spectators are requested to vacate the ground within 15 minutes of the end of the final game.

Police may be requested to remove any unauthorised persons who remain after the stipulated time.

The setting alight of, or the igniting or discharging of any type of object, including fireworks, signal or smoke flares, is strictly prohibited.

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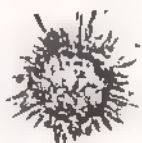
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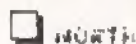
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 H v Canberra Cosmos (22.10.95) DREW 2-2
 A v Wollongong City (27.10.95) LOST 0-2
 H v Sydney United (5.11.95) LOST 0-2
 A v UTS Olympic (12.11.95) LOST 2-4
 A v Marconi-Fairfield (18.11.95) LOST 1-3
 H v West Adelaide (26.11.95) LOST 2-3
 A v Brisbane Strikers (2.12.95) LOST 0-3
 H v Newcastle Breakers (6.12.95) WON 3-1



ERICSSON CUP - SECOND PHASE

H v Melbourne Knights (10.12.95) WON 1-0
 H v Morwell Falcons (17.12.95) DREW 2-2
 H v Adelaide City (23.12.95) WON 2-0
 A v Canberra Cosmos (26.12.95) LOST 1-3
 H v Wollongong City (29.12.95) WON 6-0
 A v Sydney United (7.01.96) LOST 1-4
 H v UTS Olympic (4.02.96)
 H v Marconi-Fairfield (11.02.96)
 A v West Adelaide (18.02.96)
 H v Brisbane Strikers (25.02.96)
 A v Newcastle Breakers (1.03.96)

ERICSSON CUP - THIRD PHASE

A v Melbourne Knights (10.03.96)
 H v Morwell Falcons (13.03.96)
 A v Adelaide City (17.03.96)
 H v Canberra Cosmos (24.03.96)
 A v Wollongong City (27.03.96)
 H v Sydney United (31.03.96)
 H v UTS Olympic (6.04.96)
 A v Marconi-Fairfield (8.04.96)
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